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SDG 4: Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all.

UNODC continues to strengthen efforts to produce and disseminate knowledge pertinent to preventing and countering organized crime, contributing to SDG Target 4.7. UNODC's SHERLOC (Sharing Electronic Resources and Laws on Crime Portal) platform hosts a series of teaching modules aimed to support tertiary-level educators and academics in their efforts to transmit knowledge and create a deeper understanding of rule of law-related issues, with a focus on the subject areas of organized crime, trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants, firearms, cybercrime, wildlife crime and counter-terrorism.

The Office, in partnership with civil society organizations, UN entities, academia and other stakeholders, implements several local, regional and global initiatives that contribute to ensuring that all learners acquire the knowledge and skills needed to promote sustainable development. One of them is RiseUp4Peace, an educational initiative launched in 2024 in India. Driven by UNODC, the Kamla Nehru Public School Phagwara (KPS) and educator partners, the initiative seeks to empower young people and strengthen education on peace, integrity and the rule of law by building educators' capacities and co-creating interventions with young people. Some of these interventions use arts and street plays as tools to raise awareness on cybercrime, gender-based violence, corruption and other issues that threaten peace and sustainable development. Since the launch of the initiative, more than 6000 educators and 27,000 students from over 700 educational institutions across 30 countries have participated in person and online in RiseUp4Peace's interventions.

UN entities work closely together to address the different targets and indicators of the 2030 Agenda.

Target 4.7: By 2030, ensure that all learners acquire the knowledge and skills needed to promote sustainable development, including, among others, through education for sustainable development and sustainable lifestyles, human rights, gender equality, promotion of a culture of peace and non-violence, global citizenship and appreciation of cultural diversity and of culture's contribution to sustainable development

Similarly, the UNODC Youth Ambassadors Programme in Brazil contributes to advancing Target 4.7 by strengthening young people's personal, inter-relational and professional skills and building their capacity to champion the SDGs in their communities. In 2023, 25 new youth ambassadors from the State of Pernambuco joined a network of over 120 young activists equipped with a vast set of skills and a solid understanding of peace and justice, gender equality, poverty eradication, health and environmental issues, who are advocating for the SDG at the local, national and international fronts.

Furthermore, corruption is a complex phenomenon, often involving several actors and power relationships, disempowering the most vulnerable and triggering feelings of unfairness and distrust in public institutions. Through the Global Resource for Anti-Corruption Education and Youth Empowerment (GRACE) initiative, the Office works with educators and the UNODC YouthLED Integrity Advisory Board to further promote the role of education and youth empowerment in preventing and countering corruption. In Malawi, for instance, the Office has been working with the government and educators to promote the integration of anti-corruption, integrity and ethics into national education curricula.

Lastly, as part of the GRACE initiative, the Coding4Integrity hackathon series gives young people a learning and networking space to enhance their knowledge, strengthen their social and technical skills and develop technological solutions for corruption-related problems that impact their communities. Since 2021, UNODC has conducted four editions of its Coding4Integrity Initiative, bringing together more than 400 youth from 24 countries. In September 2023, the State of Qatar, with the support of Microsoft and UNODC, hosted the first Coding4Integrity Hackathon for young people from Arabic-speaking countries. The hackathon brought together 110 young developers who came up with innovative and technological anti-corruption solutions. The three winning solutions addressed corruption in procurement and the education sector, as well as whistleblower protection.

Empowering and enhancing the skills of children and young people is a fundamental pillar in UNODC's efforts towards countering and preventing crime and building a more peaceful and sustainable future for all, as envisaged in the 2030 Agenda.